



not simple

HATSUME OHO

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YOUR
LIFE IS
AMAZING.

I COULD
MAKE A MOVIE
ABOUT YOU
AND EVERYONE
WOULD THINK
IT WAS FAKE.

THEY
DON'T
EVEN MAKE
MOVIES
LIKE THIS.

YOU'RE
GOING
TO BE
MY NEXT
NOVEL.



prologue

not simple



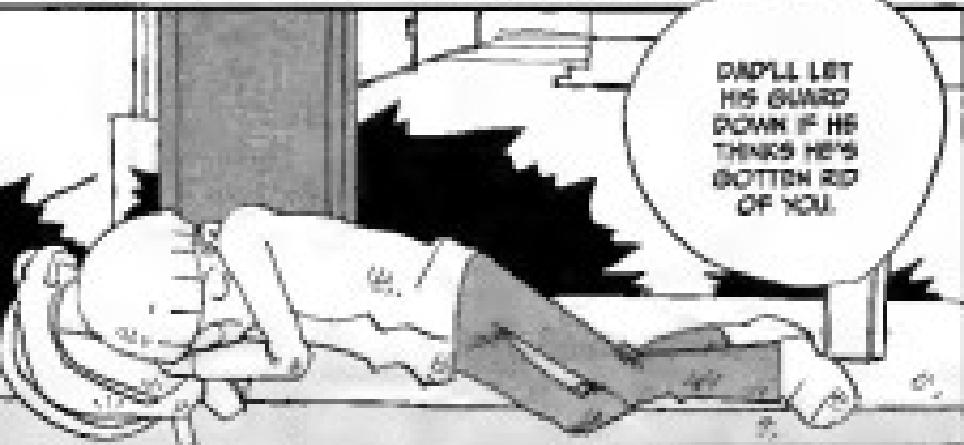


I JUST
HAVE TO
MADE HIM
THINK YOU'RE
SOMEBODY
ELSE.

DON'T
WORRY I'LL
FIGURE
SOMETHING
OUT.

DON'T
FORGET YOU
PROPOSED
HOW'D TAKE
ME WITH YOU.

YOU
BETTER
NOT LEAVE
WITHOUT
ME.



GUTTER PUNXS,
HOMER'S
BECAUSE THEY
THINK IT'S
EASIER THAN
ACTUALLY
FORING ANY
FACIAL.

HE JUST
MIGHT NOT
STIKE THEM
HIS LEGS
DOWN...

THAT'S ALL.

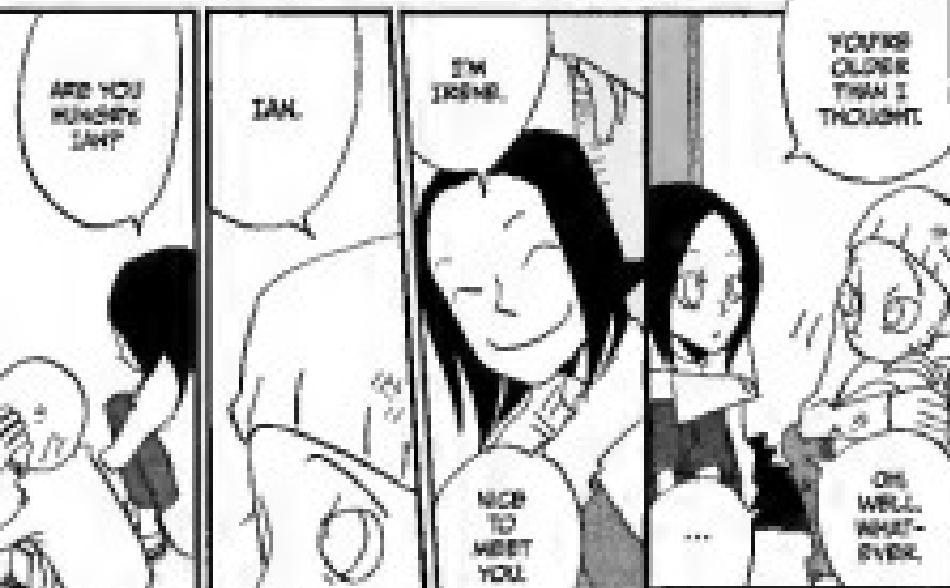
I'LL ASK HIM
CUT RIGHT IN
FRONT OF
DAD'S DOORS
AND MAKE IT
LOOK LIKE
WE'RE KILLING
EACH OTHER...

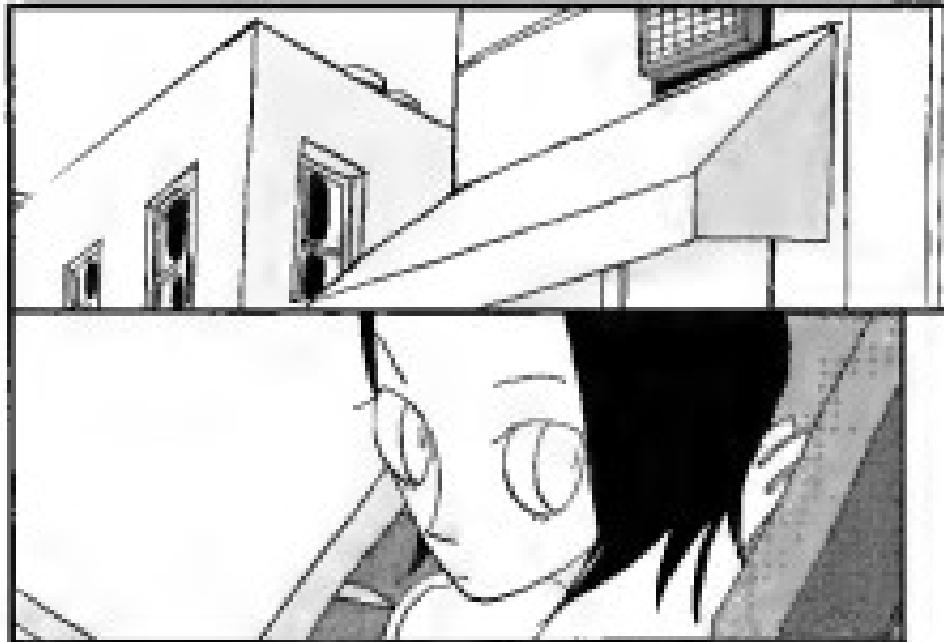
THERE
ARE SO
MANY
OF THEM
THREE
DADS.

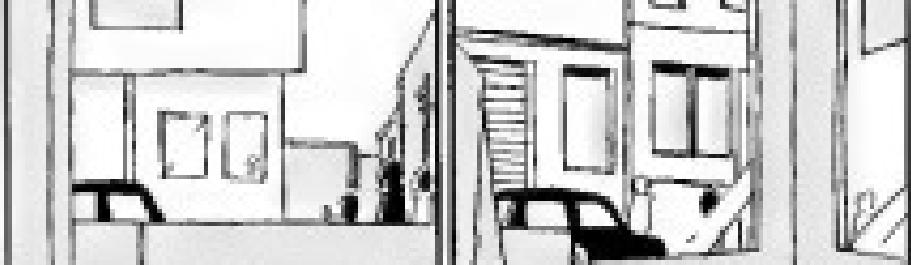
DAD
WON'T
ACTUALLY
KILL HIM.

DON'T
WORRY

WAKE
UP.









WHY ARE YOU
DOING THIS
FOR ME?

I DON'T
WANT TO
BE ALONE.

I HAVE
A FRIEND
THESE.

TELL
ME A
STORY

INNY
NEW
YORK?

WE CAME
TOGETHER FROM
AUSTRALIA.

HE'S
WRITING
A NOVEL.

HIS DAD
LIVED IN
NEW YORK
FOR A
WHILE.

SO HE LIVED
AND STAY AT
HIS PLACE.

INCIDENTLY,
FLORIDA'S
BECOME BETTER
YEAR-ROUND
SUN AND ALL...



WHEN WE
PRACTICED, WE
PROMISED
EACH OTHER
THAT WE'D MEET
AT THE SAME
PLACE, ON THE
SAME DAY, IN
THREE YEARS.

THAT DAY IS
TOMORROW...

YOU
MEAN
EIGHT?







SHE TOLD
ME THEY
MADE A
PROMISE
WHEN THEY
PARTED.

WHAT
HAPPENED
TO THE
GUY?

HE WAS
MORE THAN
TEN YEARS
YOUNGER
THAN HER

BUT SHE
DIDN'T
WANT IT.

AND
TELL EACH
OTHER HOW
THEY'D BEEN
DOING.

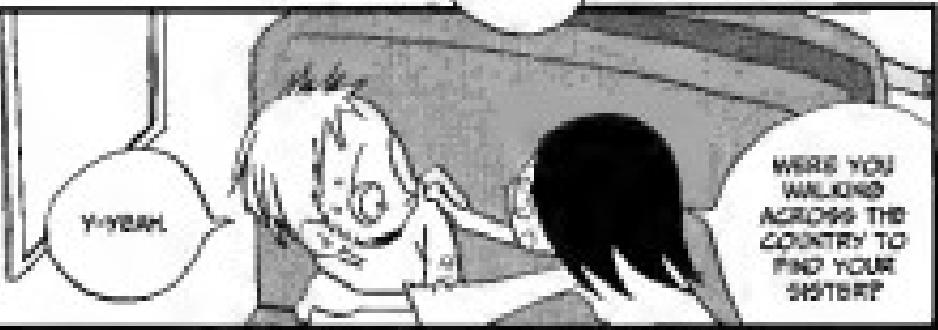
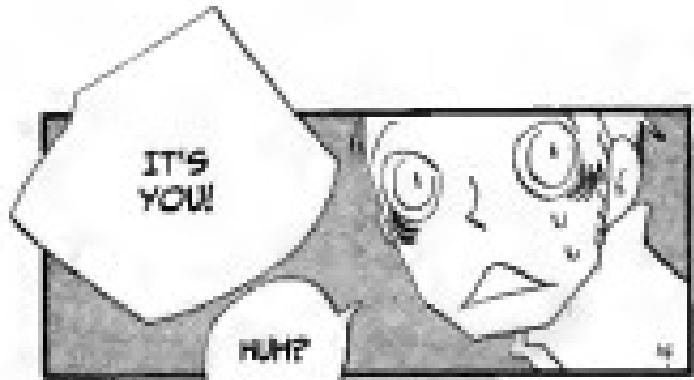
TO MEET
IN THREE
YEARS...

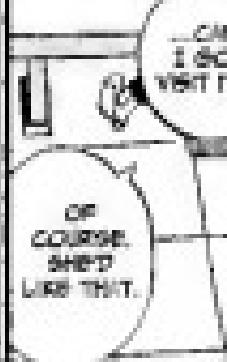
SHE DID SAY,
THOUGH, THAT
THE NEXT TIME
THEY MET SHE
WAS SURE
SHE'D LEAVE
WITH HIM.

...SHE
COULD'VE
SPENT THE
REST OF
HER LIFE
WITH HIM.

JIMMY WAS
SURE THIS
MAN FELL IN
LOVE WITH
HER, AND THAT
IF SHE'D
WANTED IT...



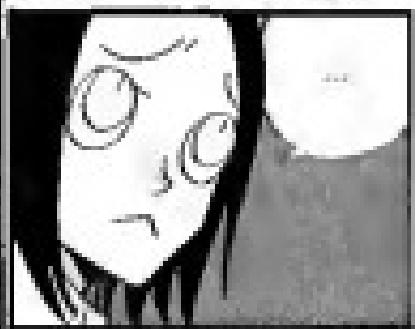
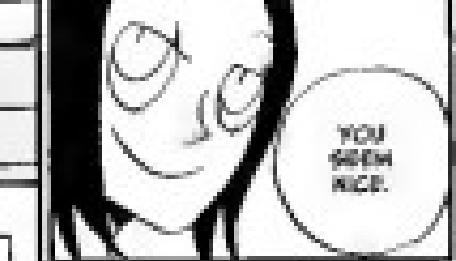




I GOTTA
CALL MY
DAD.

OH, HEY.
DID YOU
EVER FIND
YOUR
SISTER?

YOU
SEEM
NICE.



ACTUALLY,
DON'T TELL
ME—I KNOW
MY MOM'LL
WANNA HEAR
THIS TOO.

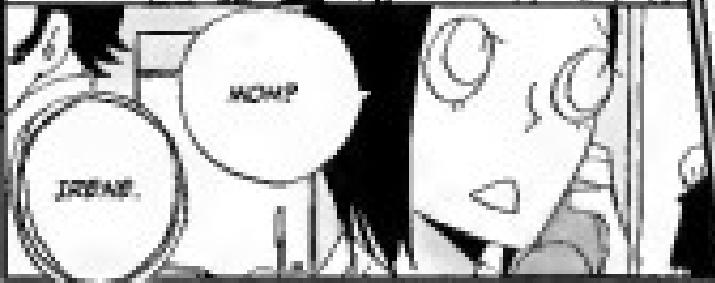
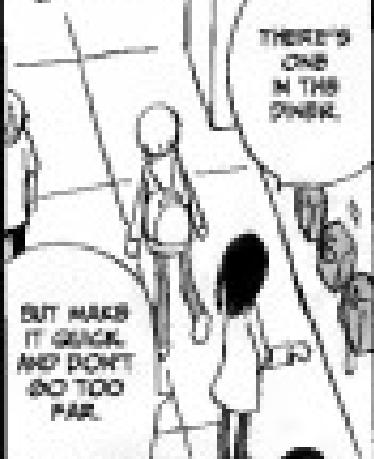
OH



MOMMA
LOVE THIS.
DAD MIGHT
BE AROUND,
SO IT SHOULD
BE ALL
RIGHT.

I'M
INVITING
YOU
TO DINNER
TONIGHT,
SO TELL
ME THEM.

I NEED
TO GET
TO THE
STATION.







MOM,
MOM...



MOM, I
GOTTA
GO.



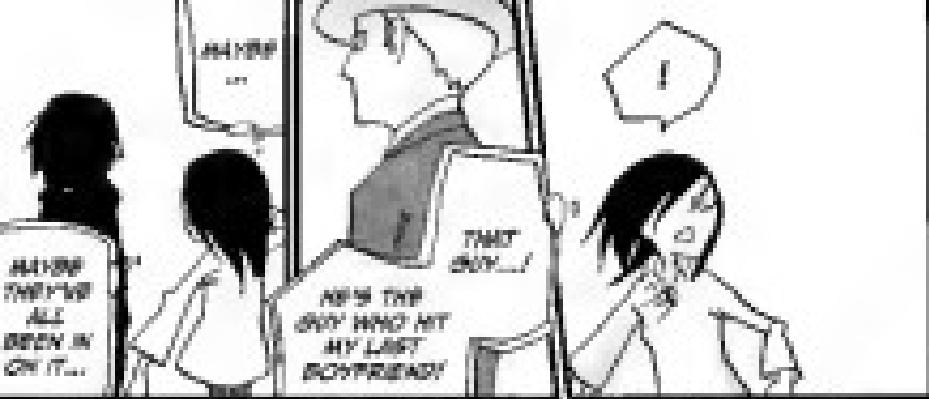
MOM'S
UNCLE JOHNS
MOTHER'S
BROTHER
CHARL...

WE JUST
STARTED
WORKING
FOR DAD.



STOP
DRINK
THAT GUY
BEFORE
TODAY







ARE YOU CRAZY?
TOUCHING SOMETHING BLOOD
WITH YOUR BARE
HANDS IN THIS
DAY AND AGE?

WHOM

IS HE...?

WHY...?

DON'T
TOUCH
HIM!

GOT
IT!

HEY,
CAN YOU
CALL AN
AMBULANCE?

I CAN'T
HEAR
YOU TOO WELL.

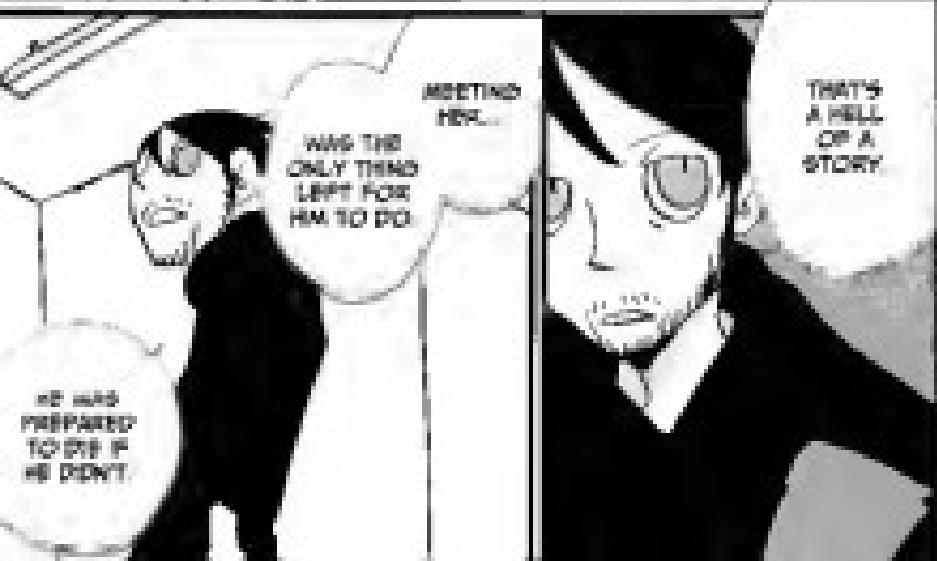
JAH...

NO,
YOU'RE
PRE...

AM I...
TALKING
TOO LOUD?

JAH.







BESIDES,
LOOK AT HIM.
DON'T YOU
THINK IT'S A
LITTLE LATE?



LOOK, HE
DON'T HAVE THE
WILL TO LIVE
ANYMORE.
THERE'S
NOTHING I
CAN DO.

...YOU
KNOW ALL
ABOUT
HER, DON'T
YOU?

WHAT
HAPPENED?
WHERE'S
HIS SISTER?

WHAT'S
YOU'RE
SUPPOSED
TO BE HIS
FRIEND

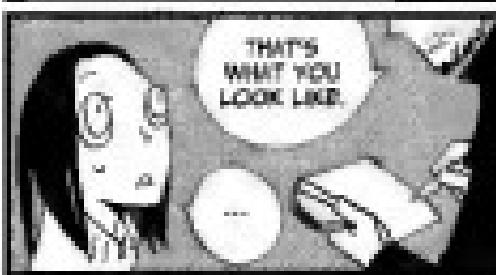
AREN'T
YOU THE
ONE HE
LIVED WITH
IN NEW
YORK?

WHY
AREN'T YOU
HELPING
HAMI? WHY
AREN'T YOU
TOUCHING
HAMI?

I CAN'T
TELL YOU.



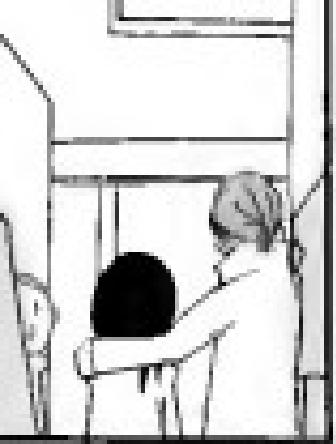
LET'S JUST SAY
HE DON'T HAVE
MUCH LUCK IN LIFE.
AND WHATEVER
LITTLE HE HAD JUST
RAN OUT BECAUSE
OF YOU.



I WON'T TELL ANYBODY ANYTHING, BUT MAKE SURE "TOAD" KNOWS THAT.



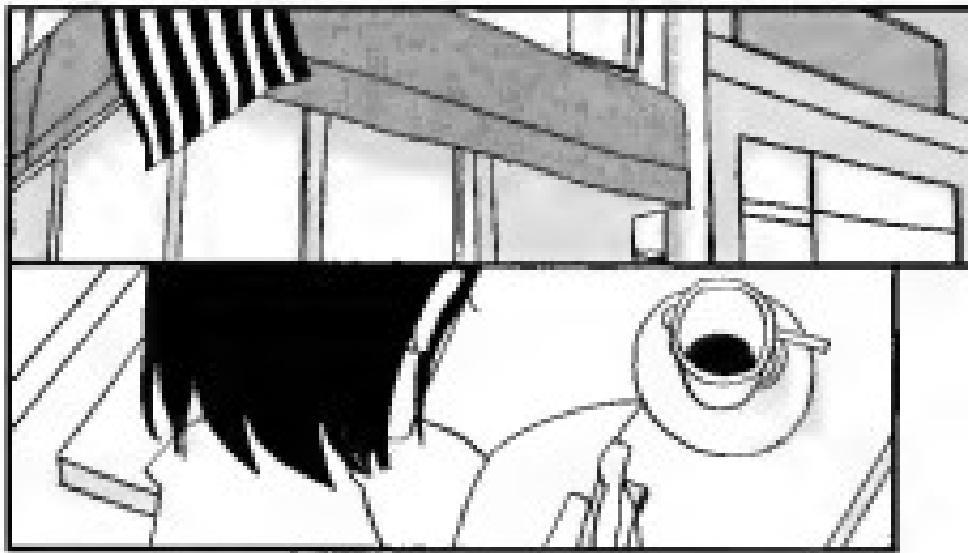


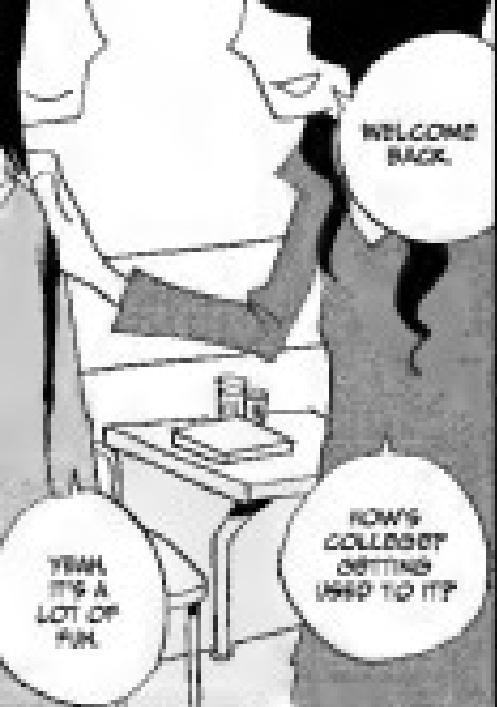




I PROMISE
I'LL NEVER
DO ANYTHING
THIS SELFISH
AGAIN.

NO
PLEASE,
JUST SAVE
HIM...





THAT GIRL
FORGOT
THIS.

MY HUSBAND
IS A HUGO PRIZE
WINNER. SHE EVEN
GOT AN
AUTOGRAPHED
COPY OF HIS
BOOK AND
EVERYTHING.

IT'S
SUPPOSED
TO BE FICTION,
BUT SHE THINKS
IT MIGHT BE A
TRUE STORY.

SHE SAID IT'S
COMPLETELY
DIFFERENT
FROM HIS
OTHER WORK.
THAT IT'S A
REAL DOWNER.

HEY, THIS
BOOK JUST
CAME OUT
YESTERDAY.

OH.

I'VE READ
ABOUT THIS
WRITER.
I HEARD HE
DISAPPEARED.



not simple

THAT'S
WHAT MY
WIFE SAID.

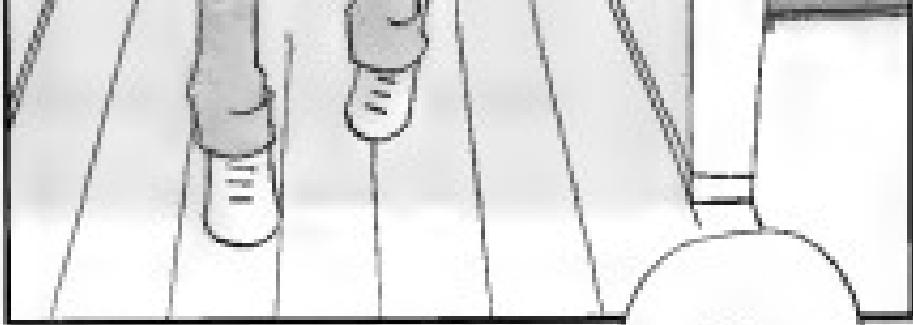
AND NOW THEY'RE
SAIDING THE
REAL MURDER
DISAPPEARED,
RIGHT?

THAT HE
MIGHT
BE DEAD.

#01

not simple







....THAT YOU
WERE JACKASS
STUFF BECAUSE
YOU NEVER
HAD MONEY TO LIVE
WITH YOUR
BROTHER?

DIDN'T
YOU SAY
BEFORE .

I DONT
TRUST
GEE
ANYONE
PLUS
JANETRY.

MAYBE HE'S
BETTER
OFF AT
HOME.
CLOSE
TO HIS
PARENTS

HE'S
STILL
YOUNG
AINT' HEM

I'M
THINKING
HIM AND
GETTING
OUT OF
TOWN.

WANTED
YOU
HOME
DO YOU
REMEMBER?

HE'S
ALL I
NEED.

TO HELL
WITH THAT
FAMILY.





BUT
HERE
I AM.

IT WAS
SUPPOSED
TO BE A
SMALL JOB.

WE WEREN'T
EXACTLY
PLANNING
ON GETTING
CAUGHT.

YEAH,
GOT TO
SEE YOUR
LITTLE
BROTHER.

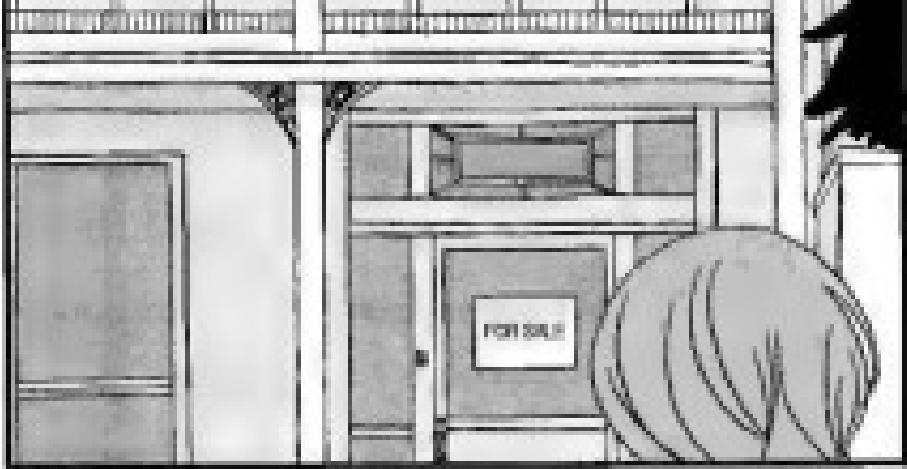
WELL,
YOU'RE OUT
TOMORROW.

YOU
PARTNERED
WITH THE
WORST
MAN.

TELL ME
ABOUT IT.
I SHOULD'VE
DONE MORE
RECON BEFORE
I AGREED
TO DO IT.





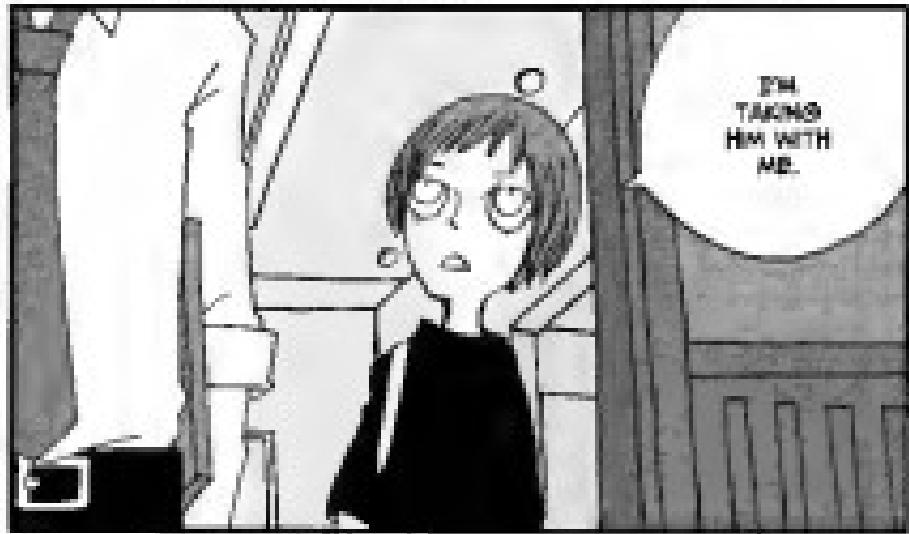


FOR SALE













A DRUNK
LIKE HER
COULD
NEVER
SUPPORT
HIM!



SHE WANTS
HIM TO
SUPPORT HER.

MAYBE...



MY NEW
WIFE
DIDN'T
HAVE
CHILDREN.

DON'T
GIVE
ME
THAT!



WHY DIDN'T
YOU CLAIM
CUSTODY??

SHE CAN
SPEND ALL
THE CHILD
SUPPORT
ON BODGES.



BUT
YOU'RE
HIS
FATHER.

I'D
ACTUALLY
BE A BETTER
IF SHE DOES
KEEP HIM.

YOU'RE
MY ONLY
CHILD.

WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?







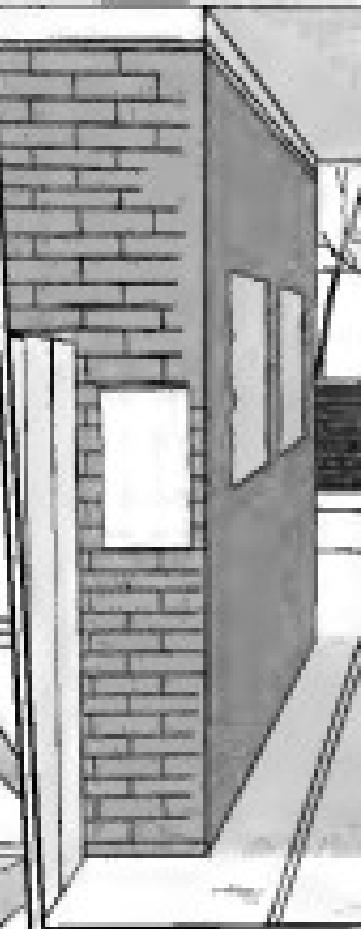
#02

not simple

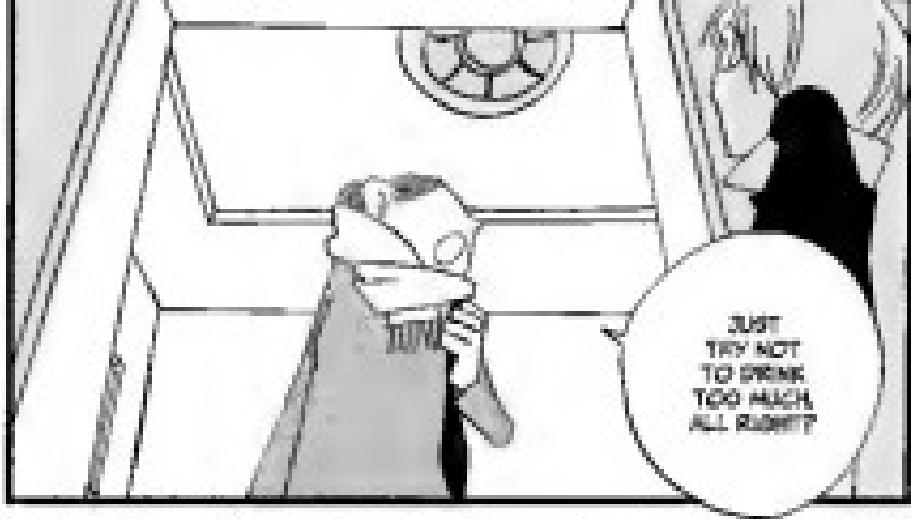


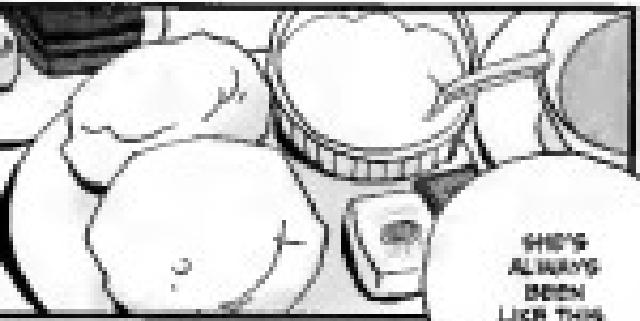
Wish

11









SHE'S
ALWAYS
BEEN
LIKE THIS.



EVERYTHING
SHE'S DONE
HAS BEEN ON
THE SPUR OF
THE MOMENT.

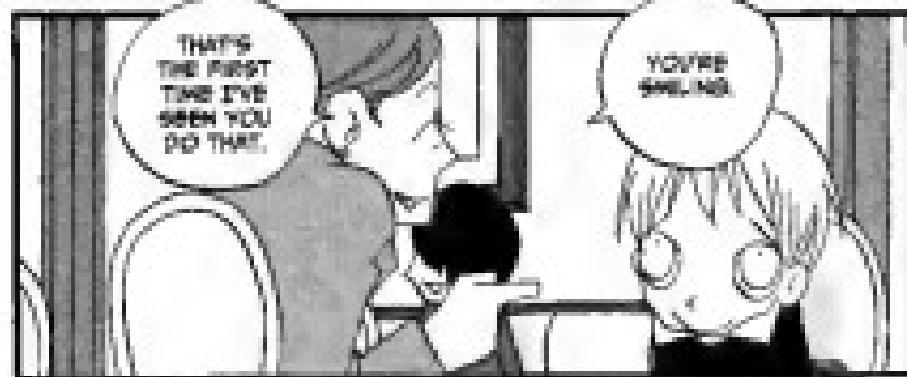


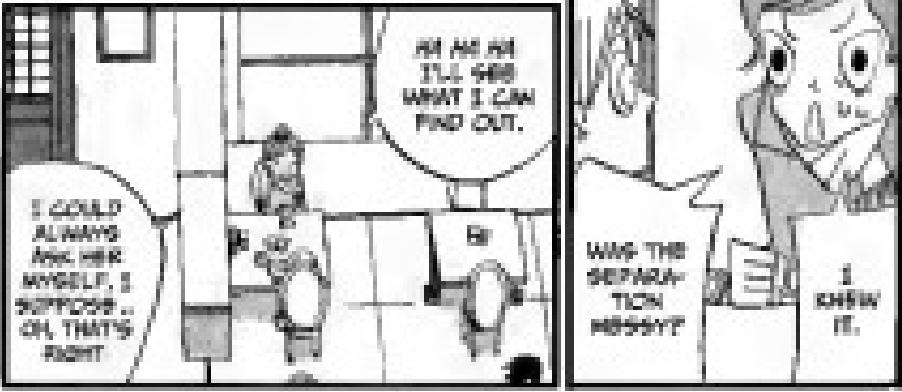
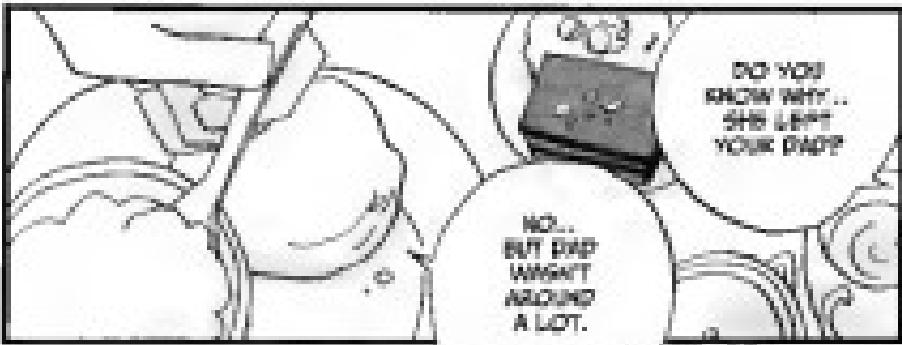
EVEN HER
DIVORCE.
I HAD NO
IDEA.

I CAN TRY
AND HELP,
BUT I CAN'T
REPLACE HER...
PAY MONEY I
GIVE HER GOES
STRAIGHT TO
THE BOTTOM.

I HAVE A
FAMILY OF
MY OWN.

THEN
SHE COMES
BACK OUT OF NOWHERE
ASKING FOR MONEY.







THE
BUTCHER
LETS ME
DO SOME
COOP JOBS
FOR HIM.

THAT'S
NOT
THE WAY
HOME,
SAM.

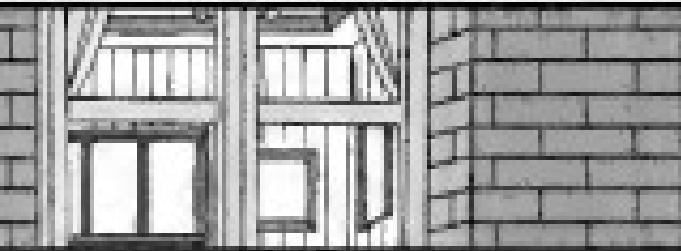
BECAUSE
MAMA
SPENDS THE
BRADLEY
MONEY ON
ALCOHOL.

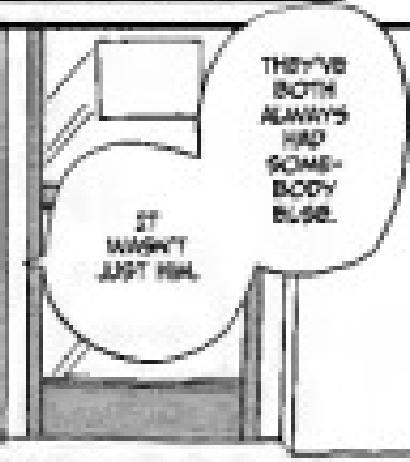
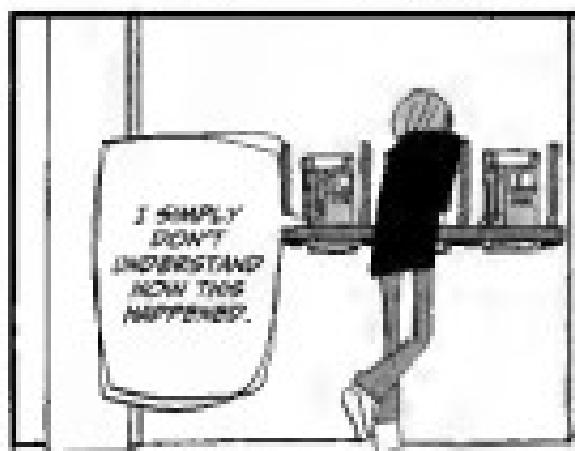
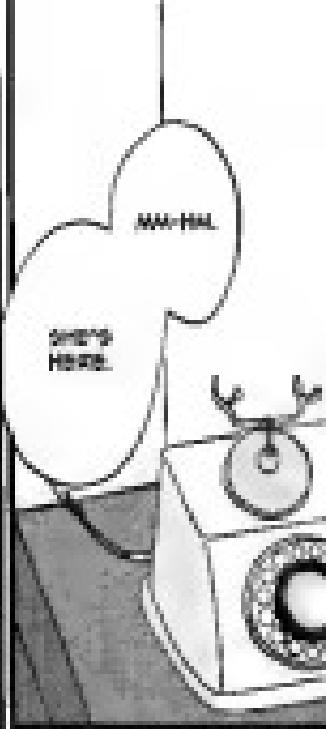
NOW
COMMENDABLE.

I HAVE
TO GET
IN TOUCH
WITH KYLIE
SOON...

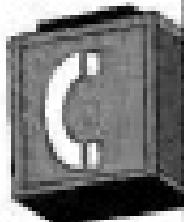








ANYWAY,
THANKS.



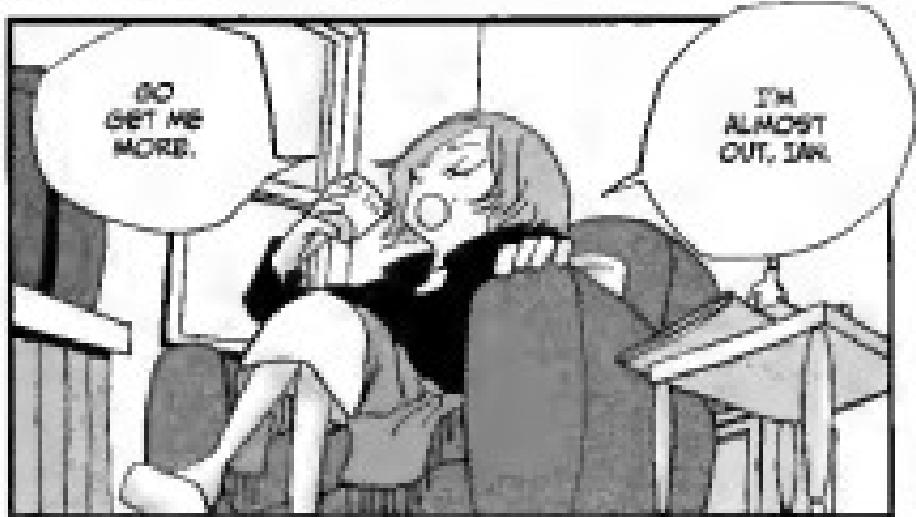
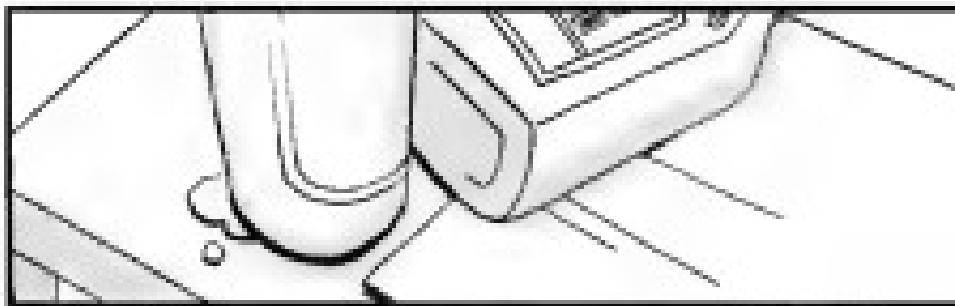
I WOULDNT
KNOW WHERE
THEY WENT
BESIDES...

I'LL TRY
TO BE
THINGS AS
GOOD AS
I CAN.

THEY
WERE SO
IN LOVE
WHEN
THEY GOT
MARRIED.

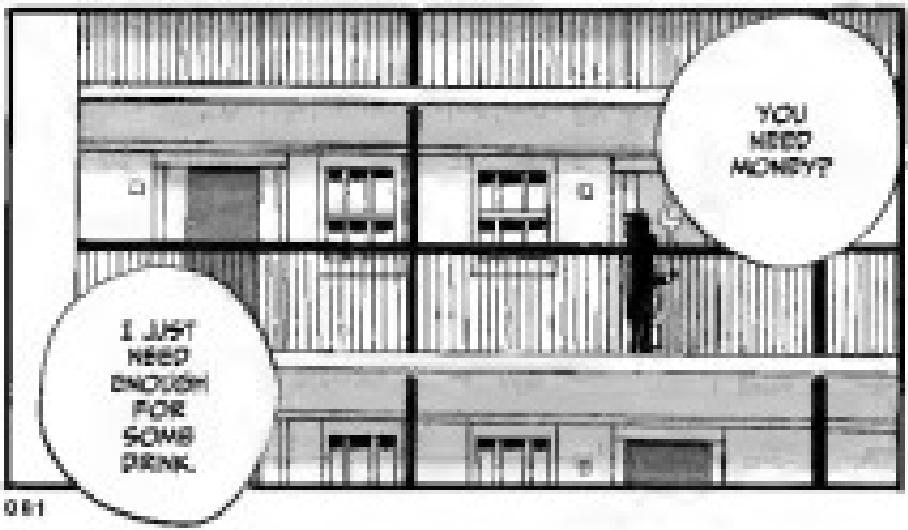
IT WAS
REALLY
ENJOYABLE.











LIQUOR
STORE

HORRY,
BUT...

...I ONLY
WORK
WITH KIDS
IN THEIR
TWENTIES.

...I
CAN'T
HELP
YOU.

JUST
ONE
LAST
DRINK
BEFORE
I GO
HOME
TODAY.
I'LL
GET
THE
REST
OF
THE
BOTTLE
LATER.

I CAN TELL
YOU HAD IT
GOING ON
BACK IN
THE DAY...

BUT AT
YOUR AGE...

- WILL A
BOY DO?

WHEN
YOU SAY
REPS...

THERE'S
SOMETHING
FOR EVERYONE
AND SOMETHING
FOR EVERY-
THING.

DON'T
BE YOUR
SILENT

YOU
SILENT

THEN COULD
YOU FIND A
CUSTOMER
FOR HIM?



#03

not simple



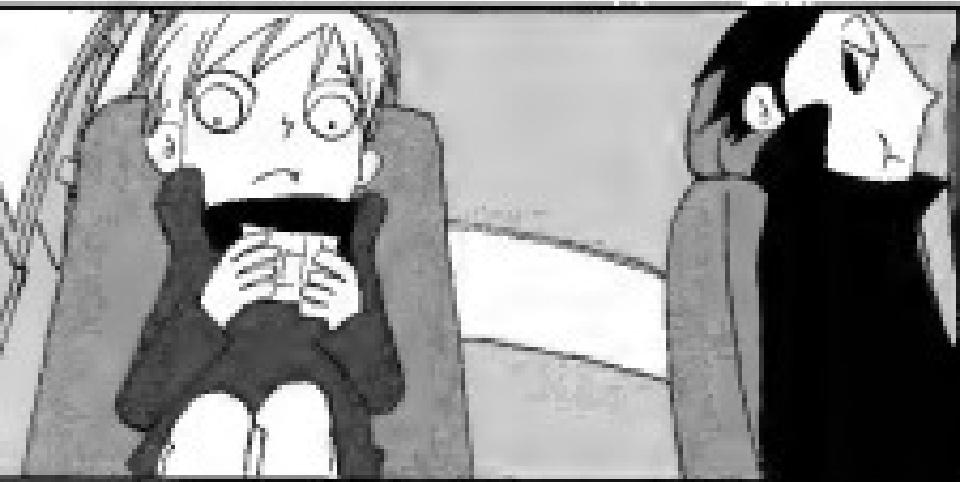








WANT
SOME
CRUMPS?





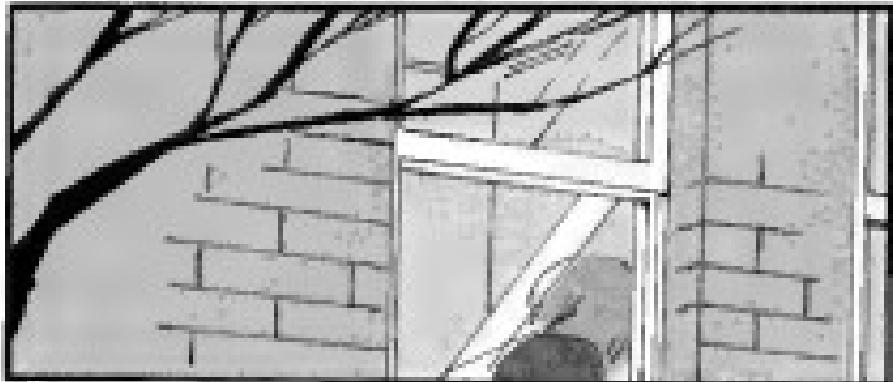




I'M THE
ONE WHO'LL
BE RAISING
JAH FROM
NOW ON.
NOT THEM.

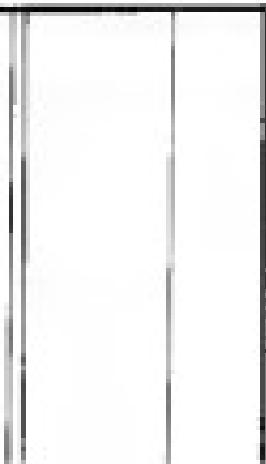
I HOPE
YOU TWO
CAN FINALLY
FIND SOME
PEACE.

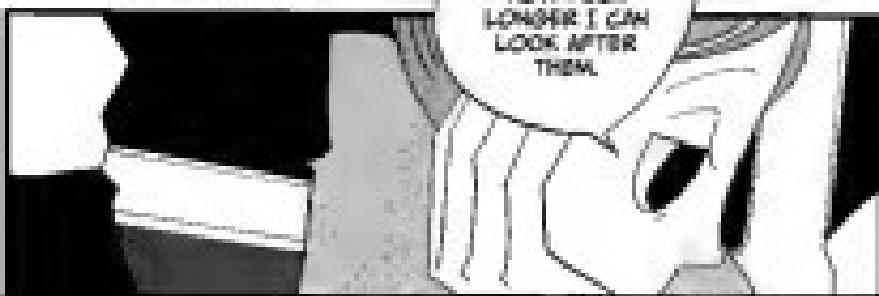
I'LL TRY
TO PAY
YOU BACK
AS SOON
AS I CAN.















I WASN'T
A GOOD
DAUGHTER
EITHER.

DO YOU WANT TO





YOU GOT HERE FASTER THAN I EXPECTED.

I THOUGHT IT'D TAKE YOU LONGER.

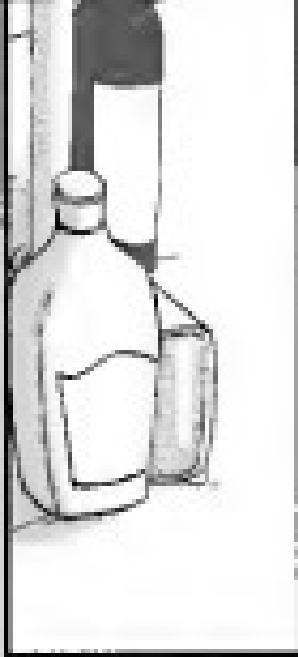


I WAS HOPEFUL TO MAKE THAT CUTE 'LITTLE BROTHER' OF YOURS AS LONG AS I COULD.



YOU TOOK SAM WITH YOU TO GET BACK AT ME, DIDN'T YOU?















LET'S ALL
GO BACK
WITH MOM.

I
WANNA
STAY
WITH
YOU.

NOT
RIGHT
NOW,
JAH.

DO YOU
HAVE A
DREAM?

HEY

LIVE A
GOAL?

UH-
HMM

...YOU CAN
COME
SEE ME.

THEN, WHEN
YOU ACHIEVE
THAT GOAL...

PROMISE?

BUT NOT
UNTIL
YOU DO.

I'LL TELL
YOU ALL
KINDS OF
THINGS.

WHEN YOU
DO REACH
THAT GOAL
AND COME
SEE ME...

WILL YOU
PROMISE
ME?



DAD



IT'S NOT
THAT I
DON'T LIKE
THIS KID.



WE'RE
RELATED,
AFTER
ALL.



I COULD
A LOVED
HIM.



BABY
HAVEN'T
YOU
LEFT
YET?



ANTE
GAVE ME
THE AX!



AND I'M
MISERABLE
BECAUSE
OF YOU.



BUT HE'S
BECOMING
TO LOOK MORE
AND MORE
LIKE HIM. HOW
COULD I
LOVE HIM?



IF HIS
FATHER
WERE
ANYONE
ELSE...



THAT'S
EXACTLY
WHY I'M
HERE.



I'VE COME
TO TAKE FULL
RESPONSIBILITY.



I'LL
LOOK
AFTER
YOU.

I'LL DO
ANYTHING.

I'LL BE
WITH YOU
UNTIL
YOU DIE.

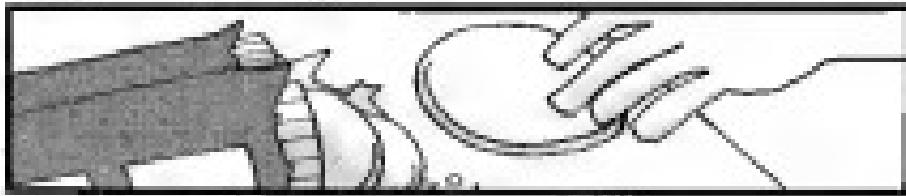
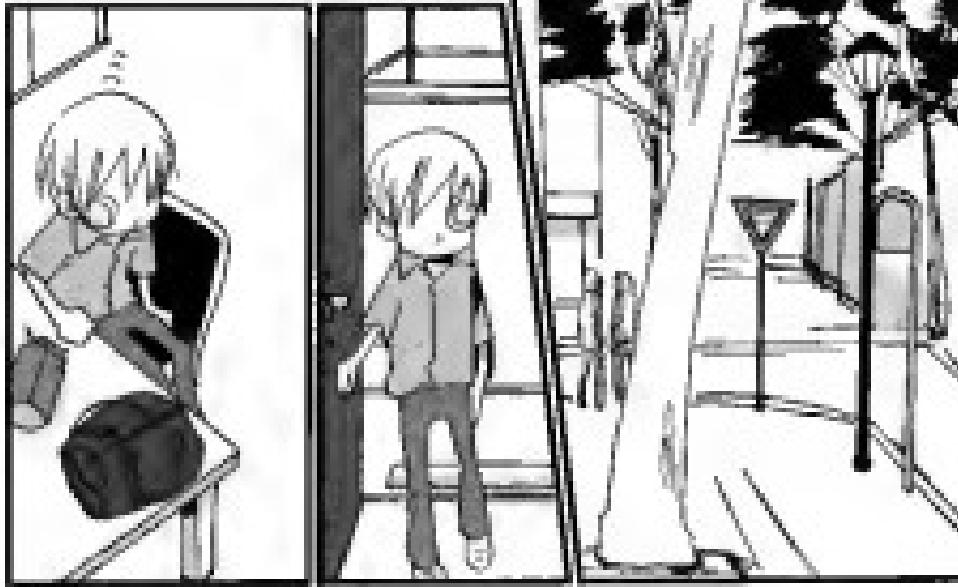
#04

not simple















I'LL LEAVE
SOME MONEY
HERE, SO
MAKE SURE
YOU EAT.



I WISH I
COULD TELL
YOU WHERE
THEY ARE.



I WONDER
HOW KYLIE
AND MUM
ARE DOING?





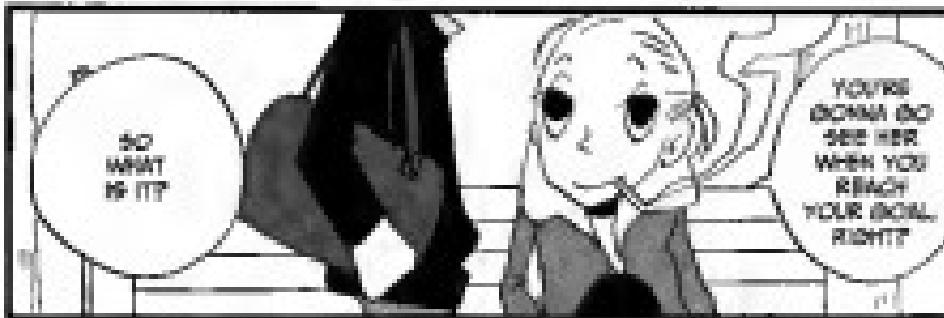
YOU'RE
SIR,
RIGHT?



SHE ASK
HOW
YOU'RE
DOING?

SO
WHAT'D
YOU
SAY?











25
IAN NOT
COMING
WITH US?

HE
WANTS
TO RUN
HOME.

HE LIKES
RUNNING.

MOM
DON'T
LIKE IT
ENTIRE.

DAD
DON'T
SEEM
HAPPY
WHEN SHE
SAID HE
LOOKED
ALIKE.



I WOULD
SEE HER
AND TALK
TO HER.

I MISS
KYLE.

DID
YOU RUN HERE
AFTER
LATE?

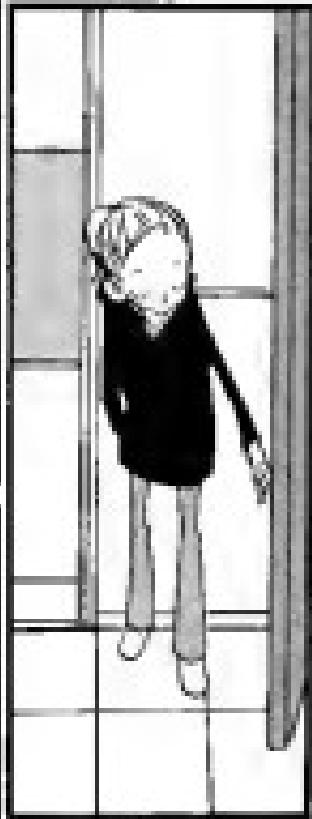
HERE'S
THE
LETTER.

STAY
AND HAVE
SOMETHING
TO DRINK.

THANKS,
BUT I
HAVE TO
GET
BACK.

SEE
YOU

YEAR
END.



IT'S
BEEN A
WHILE
NOW.

WANTED
YOU TWO
GONNA
SEE EACH
OTHER?

KYLIE.

WE CAN'T...
NOT UNTIL
HE REACHES
HIS GOAL.

DO
WHAT HE
HIS GOAL.
BYE!

I DON'T
KNOW.

BUT HE IS
TRYING TO
KEEP HIS
PROMISE.

I'M
PRETTY
SETTLED
IN.

HADN'T
IT BEEN
LONG
ENOUGH?



I'LL
WAIT
FOR
YOU.





#05 not simple

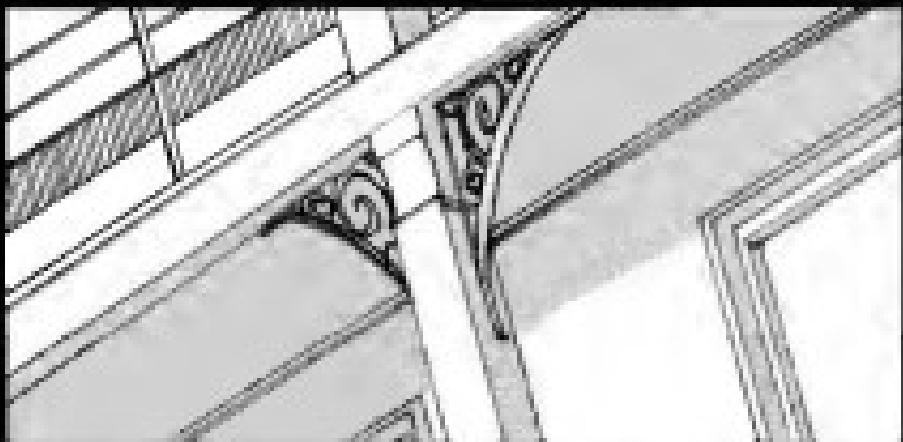
NO
RUNNING
IT'S
DANGEROUS!



BE
CAREFUL.
DON'T
FALL!

YOU
REALLY
LIKE
RUNNING.
DON'T
YOU?

OKAY.



WHO'S THAT?

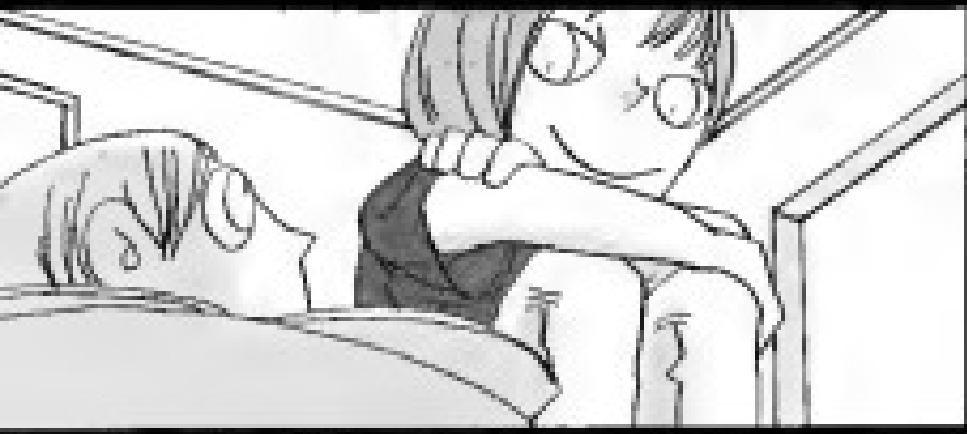
ROBERT
JOHNSTON.

HE'S
A 1000
METER
RUNNER.

HE'S
REALLY
FAST.

HE'S
COOL.

YOU
WANT TO
BE AS
FAST AS
HIM?







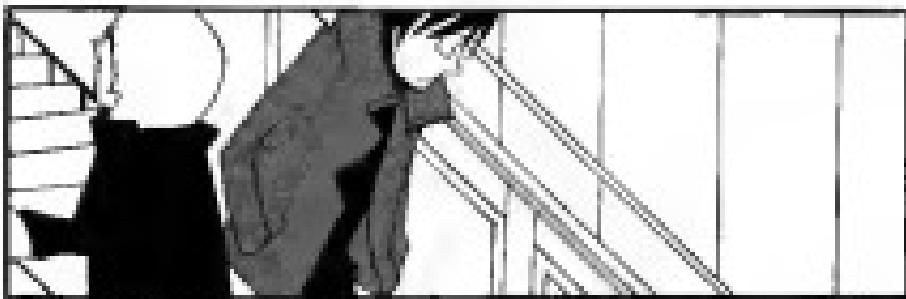


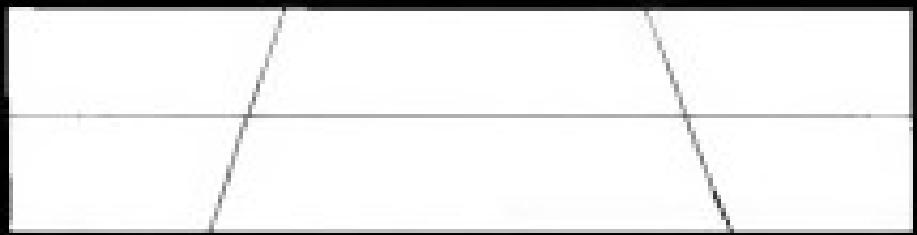
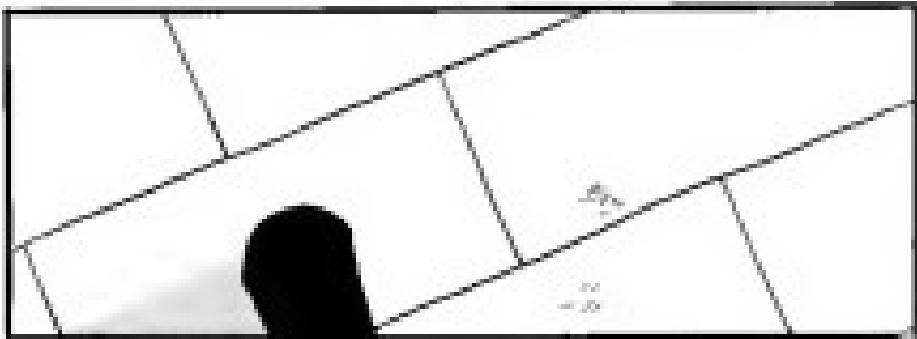


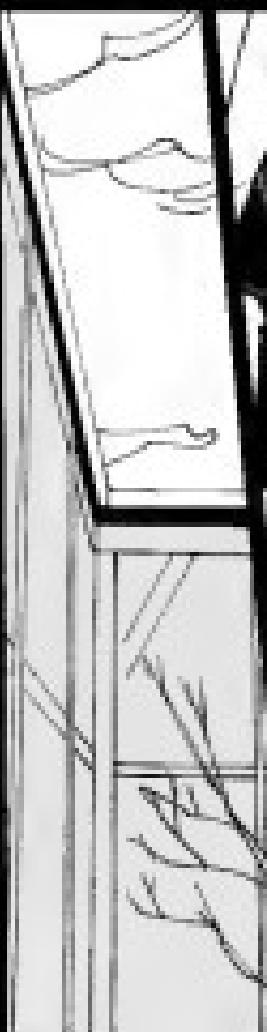
#06
not simple



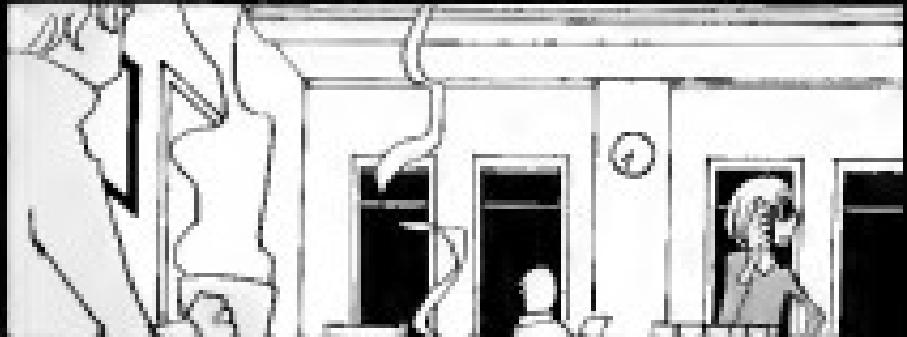


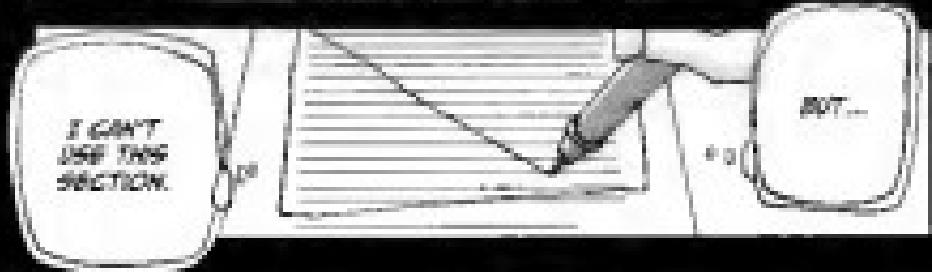










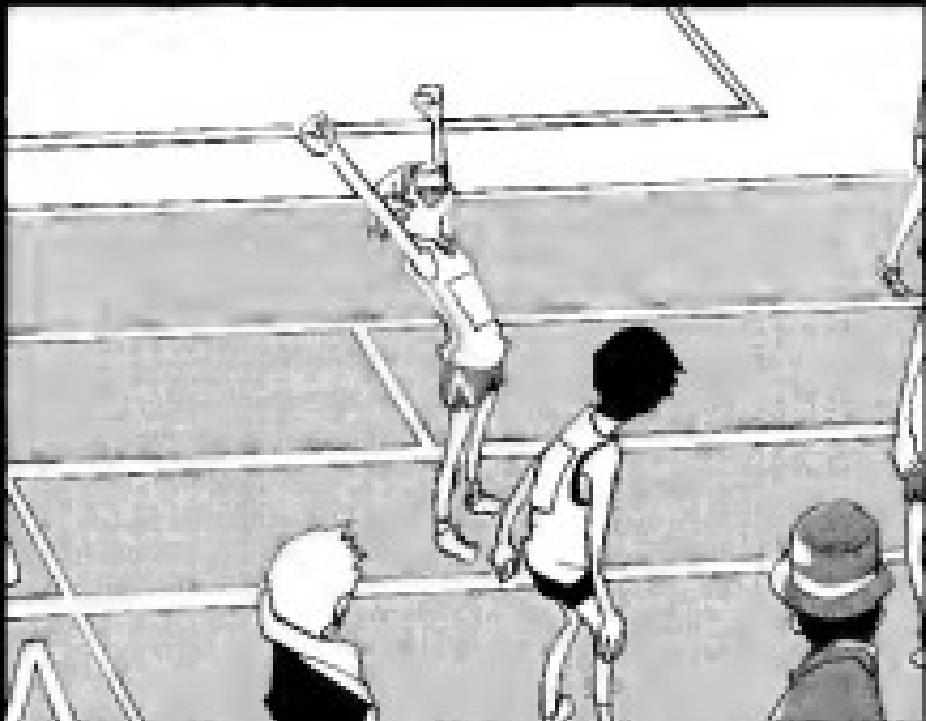






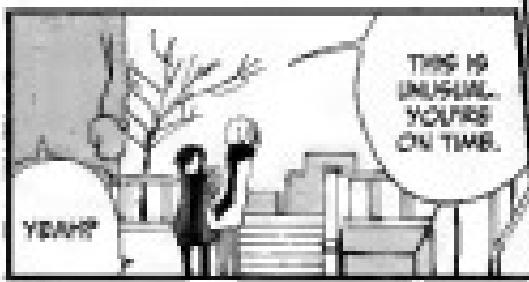
...MY
SISTER
MIGHT BE
MY REAL
MOTHER...





HE ONLY
FINISHED
FOURTH, BUT
THE MARY HE
CELEBRATED...

A
"SREAM,"
MINT



THEY MIGHT
TAKE IT THE
WRONG WAY.

NOT MANY
PEOPLE
KNOW WHY
YOU DID IT.

ABOUT
YOUR LITTLE
"PERFORMANCE"
THE OTHER DAY.

DIDN'T
YOU
USE OUR
INTERVIEW
IN THE
ARTICLE?

BY
THE WAY,
BUT...

YEAH.

I DECIDED
TO KEEP IT
TO MYSELF.

IT'S
BURN
TOLD.
BUT
IT'S
OKAY.

FOR MY
NOVEL.

